

Notices for Week Commencing 9th January

SERVICES:

8.30am Holy Communion at Little Witley Church

9.30am Holy Communion at Shrawley Church

11.00am Holy Communion at Pensax Church

6.00pm KAINOS POTAMOS 2 at Abberley St Mary Church (Contemporary Worship with teaching/discussion)

At present, it is mandatory to wear a face covering in a place of worship, unless you are exempt. For Communion Services, alternate pews will be kept free for the distribution of the sacrament. Wedding couples will continue to be asked to book for services and Vickie will alert local churches to ensure there is space allocated for them.

There is a possibility, in the smaller churches, that you could arrive and find the church is at capacity and you cannot get into the service; this might be more likely in small churches, so please be patient and understanding if this is the case. For those of you who remain cautious about distancing, it is recommended that you attend worship in the larger of the church buildings (Great Witley, Abberley St Mary and Lindridge).

As always, continue to check the 4Rivers Churches website (www.4rivers.church/services) for the up-to-date information about services and events over the next week.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE Sunday 30th January

Christingle is celebrated each year by thousands of churches, schools, uniformed groups across the county and these Christingle celebrations have raised millions of pounds to support The Children's Society's work with vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people.

4Rivers Churches will be supporting the work of the Children's Society and holding a Muddy Church Christingle Service on Sunday 30th January at 10am starting at Abberley St Mary's Church. If anyone would like to help with this service, either on the day, or making Christingles before the 30th January, please let Vickie know (vickie.melling@4rivers.church).

All donations from this service and other services on the 30th January will be sent to The Children's Society.

FUNERAL of Pearl Davies

The funeral of Pearl Davies will be held at Knighton-on-Teme church on the 20th January. Pearl was a past Churchwarden of Knighton church and an active member of the community. Please hold Pearl's family and friends in your prayers over the next days and weeks.

4RIVERS CHURCHES FACEBOOK GROUP To join the group, contact Christine (christine.clarke@4rivers.church).

4RIVERS CHURCHES WEBSITE: www.4rivers.church for details of church events and services.

Abberley



The
Children's
Society

Muddy Church Christingle



**Sunday 30th
January
10am**

Gathering at Abberley St Mary's Church

Starting at Abberley St Mary's Church at 10am, come together to enjoy a Christingle Trail around Abberley Green.

Have a fun time at a Muddy Church Christingle Service and explore God's creation and love for us all.

And raise money for the Children's Society.

All ages welcome and we'll finish in St Mary's church lighting the Christingles, with the help of Abberley Primary School CREW.



Notices (cont)

THANK YOU from Rev Ted

A HUGE THANK YOU to those who obtained the resources, then decorated our church buildings for Advent and Christmas.

And to those who cleaned them.

All our church buildings were splendidly and tastefully decorated. There was nothing that jarred. Thank you for preparing the advent wreaths, especially as we use them for liturgical action.

Thank you for the person who has hand-made nativity figures (you know who you are!) for school and church nativity scenes, and for the splendid work presenting churchyards well at a difficult time of year.

CHRISTMAS CHARITIES

Money for various charities was raised across 4Rivers Churches. Thank you to everyone who made a donation.

Pensax, Knighton and Lindridge together donated £250 to MAGGS Day Centre.

This week's Zoom Worship resources:

Be Thou my vision	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6CMclLT_Hjg
Who is he in yonder stall	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M_U-6fha1FE
Breathe on me breath of God	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=92vT62xEV34
God's Spirit is in my heart	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9VTQvYG-bl4
O let the Son of God enfold you	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6PYx0PXOyo8
Arise my soul arise	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UuJ7-s3gN4k

These and other worship resources can be found at: www.4rivers.church/worship-resources/

BIBLE READINGS

ACTS 8:14-17

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL: LUKE Chapter 3:15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

PRAYER from USPG

Lord God, give us inspiration to build a community focused on peace, justice and hope.

May we protect the vulnerable and weak, providing food and shelter to the hungry and homeless.

Make us the salt and light in the darkness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Collect

Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your
Son:

may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved
children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen